How's the Water?

Upper Rio Grande
Basin Advisory Committee
Meeting

August 9, 2006

Nancy N. Hanks, Ph.D.

Quality Assurance Officer

Texas Clean Rivers Program





What Do We Do?

- Routine Monitoring of the Upper Rio Grande
 - > Fixed locations, regular intervals
 - > 24 sites in Upper RG for FY2007
- Collect and report water quality data
- Special Studies
 - Big Bend NPS—5 real-time monitoring stations

Clean Rivers Program Organization Chart

Carlos Marin Acting Commissioner USIBWC

Steve Smullen
Acting Principal Engineer
USIBWC

Gilbert Anaya
Environmental Management Division Manager
USIBWC

USIBWC Field Offices

American Dam Amistad, Presidio,

Falcon, Mercedes

USIBWC

Clean Rivers Program Wayne Belzer, Project Manager Nancy Hanks, Quality Assurance

Laurie Curra TCEQ CRP Program Manager

Cory Horan TCEQ CRP Project Manager **Amistad National Recreation Area**

Big Bend National Park

City of Brownsville

El Paso Community College

Laredo Engineering Dept.

Laredo Health Dept.

Sabal Palm

Upper Pecos SWCD #213

UTEP Biological Sciences Dept.

= Upper Rio Grande only

Monitoring Partners

- 10 partners in the Upper Rio Grande help monitor, collect, and analyze samples:
- Amistad National Recreation Area (monitoring)
- Big Bend National Park (monitoring and gauges)
- EPCC (monitoring)
- EPWU (lab analysis)
- TCEQ-El Paso (monitoring and gauges)
- UTEP (monitoring)
- USGS (monitoring and gauges)
- USIBWC Field Offices:
 American Dam, Presidio, Amistad

What Do We We Monitor? Field Data

00010	26	WATER TEMP (deg C only)				
00020	21	AIR TEMP (deg C only)				
00400	8.4	pH (SU)				
00300	6.3	D.O. (mg/L)				
00094	878	SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE (uS/cm)				
00078	.03	SECCHI DISK (meters)				
72053	3	DAYS SINCE LAST SIGNIFICANT PRECIPITATION				
01351	5	FLOW SEVERITY	1-no flow 3-normal 5-high			
00061		INSTANTANEO	OUS FLOW (cf	s)		

89835		FLOW MEASUREMENT METHOD 1-Gage 2-Electric				
		3-Mechanical 4-V		opler		
74069		ESTIMATED FLOW (cfs)				
89861		STREAM WIDTH (meters)				
82903		WATER DEPTH (meters)				
31616		FECAL COLIFORM (CFU/100 ml)				
31699		E. coli (MPN/100 ml)				
31609		E coli. Geometric Mean (MPN/100 ml)				
89966	1	WEATHER 1-clear 3-overcast 4-rain	2-cloudy			
89965	3	WIND INTENSITY	1-calm 3-moderate	2-slight 4-strong		
89010	2	WIND DIRECTION	1-north 3-east	2-south 4-west		

What Do We We Monitor?

Lab Data

- Nitrogen
- Phosphorus
- Chloride
- Sulfates
- Chlorophyll a
- Pheophytin
- Total organic carbon (TOC)
- Total dissolved solids (TDS)
- Total suspended solids (TSS)
- Bacteria

Final Analysis Report

LCRA Environmental Laboratory Services

Date: 14-Jun-06

CLIENT:	International Boundary and Water Commiss	Client Sample ID:	Sabal Palm Audubon Sanctuary
Lab Order:	0606040	Collection Date:	5/31/2006 11:30:00 AM
Project:	Rio Grande CRP	Matrix:	SURFACE WATER
Lab ID:	0606040-001	Tag No:	16288

Lab ID: 0606040-001	Tag No: 16288						
Analyses	Result	Qual	MDL	PQL	Units	DF	Date Analyzed
ICP METALS, TOTAL RECOVERAB	LE		E200.7				Analyst: TRO
Calcium	103		0.00644	0.200	mg/L	1	6/6/2006 11:28:48 PI
Magnesium	29.3		0.0118	0.200	mg/L	1	6/6/2006 11:28:48 PI
Potassium	7.01		0.0451	0.200	mg/L	1	6/6/2006 11:28:48 PM
Sodium	188		0.0243	0.600	mg/L	1	6/6/2006 11:28:48 PM
ANIONS BY ION CHROMATOGRAF	PHY		E300				Analyst: WR
Chloride	190		0.75	25.0	mg/L	25	6/7/2006 7:05:00 PM
Sulfate	276		0.66	25.0	mg/L	25	6/7/2006 7:05:00 PM
ALKALINITY			M2320 B				Analyst: WR
Alkalinity, Total (As CaCO3)	144		0	2	mg/L CaCO3	1	6/5/2006
CHLOROPHYLL AND PHEOPHYTIN	V		E446.0				Analyst: LO
Chlorophyll A	25.7	×	1.17	5.00	µg/L	1	6/6/2006
Pheophytin A	3.23	JK	1.17	5.00	μg/L	1	6/6/2006
NITRATE AND NITRITE			E353.2				Analyst: JT
Nitrogen, Nitrate & Nitrite	0.62		0	0.02	mg/L	1	6/6/2006
AMMONIA AS N			E350.1				Analyst: LL
Nitrogen, Ammonia (As N)	0.082		0.006	0.020	mg/L	1	6/2/2006
TOTAL PHOSPHATE AS P IN WAT	ER		E365.4				Analyst: LL
Phosphorus, Total (As P)	0.261		0.004	0.020	mg/L	1	6/7/2006
SILICA			E370.1				Analyst: LL
Silica, Dissolved (as SiO2)	14.8		0.04	0.50	mg/L	1	6/2/2006
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS			E160.1				Analyst: JT
Total Dissolved Solids (Residue, Filterable)	892		4.50	5.00	mg/L	1	6/2/2006
ORGANIC CARBON, TOTAL			E415.1				Analyst: CM
Organic Carbon, Total	5.45		0.025	0.500	mg/L	1	6/2/2006
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS			E160.2				Analyst: JT
Suspended Solids (Residue, Non- Filterable)	46.0		0.5	1.0	mg/L	1	6/2/2006
VOLATILE SUSPENDED SOLIDS			E160.4				Analyst: JT
Volatile Suspended Solids	8.00		0.500	1.00	mg/L	1	6/6/2006

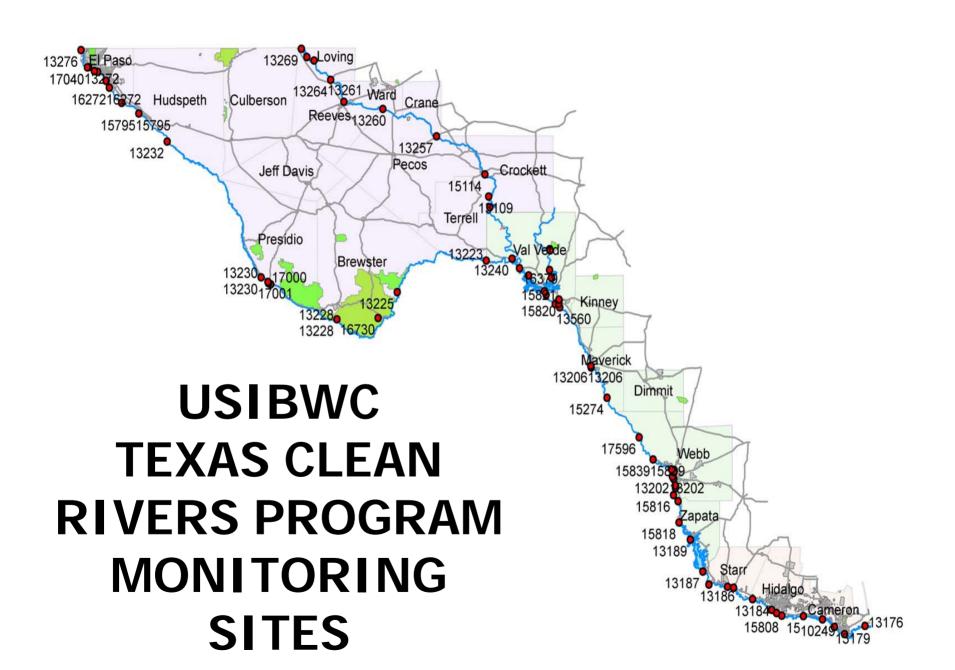
Qualifier

- Value exceeds Maximum Contaminant Level
- E Value above quantitation range
- J Analyte detected below quantitation limits
- S Spike Recovery outside accepted recovery limits
- B Analyte detected in the associated Method Blank
- H Holding times for preparation or analysis exceeded
- ND Not Detected at the Reporting Limit
- X Value exceeds Maximum Contaminant Level

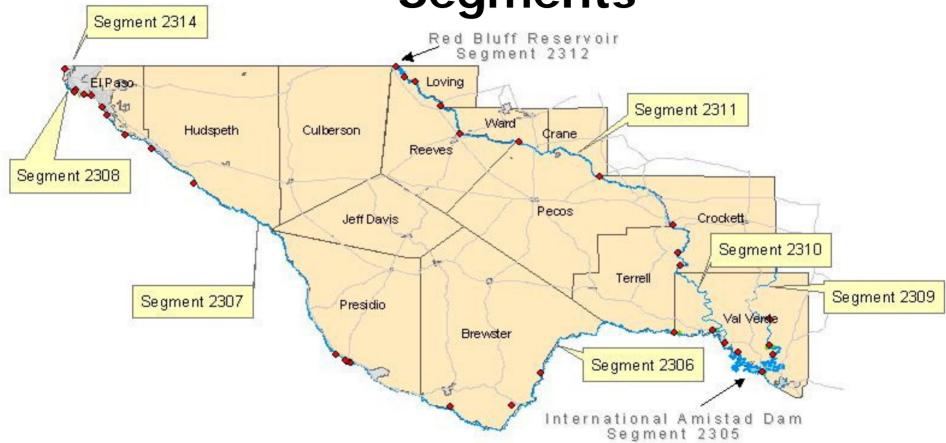
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2004 Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List

- •2006 List comes out this fall
- TCEQ updates every 2 years
- •Reviews the past five years' worth of data collected by many organizations statewide
- •2004 List provides an assessment of water quality results collected between March 1, 1998 and February 28, 2003
- Basis for 2006 Basin Highlights Report



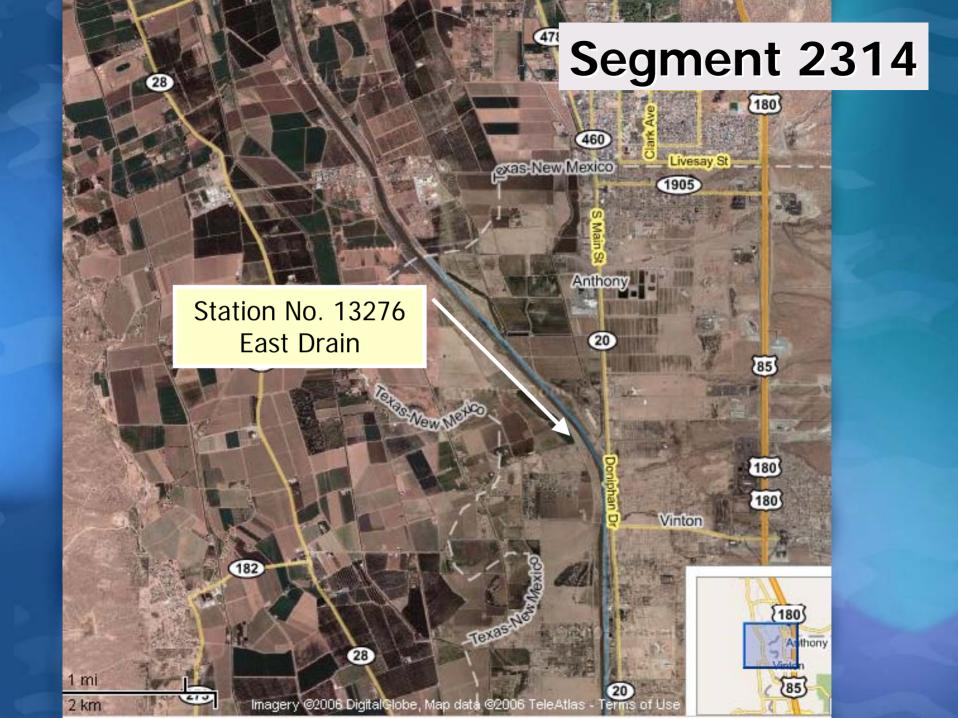
Upper Rio Grande Basin Segments

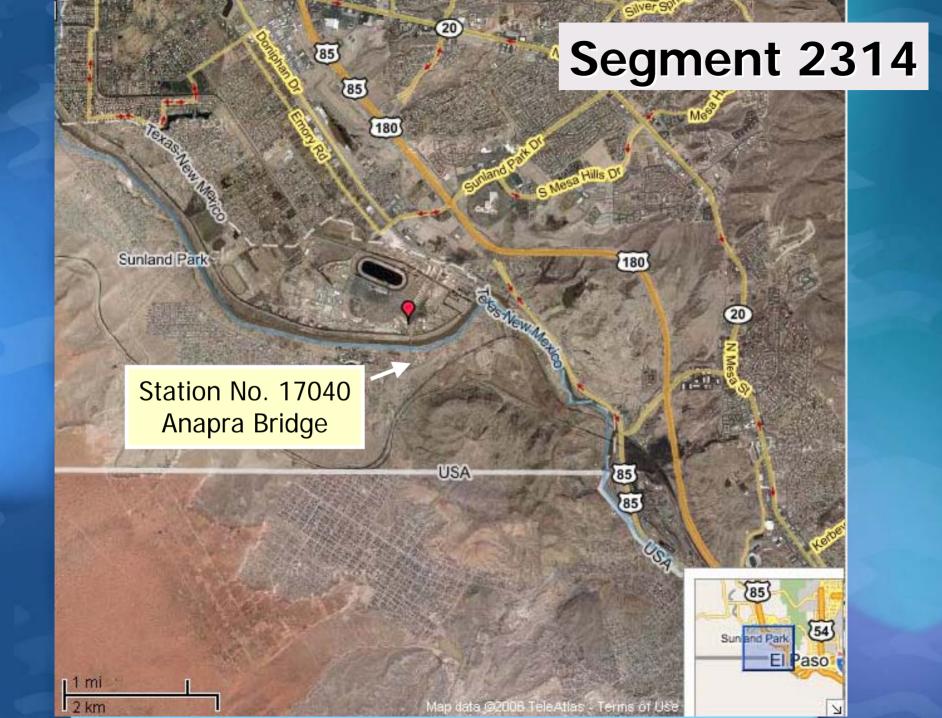


From the NM / TX state line 13276 down to the International Dam in El Paso – 21 miles or 33 km El Paso Hudspeth Segment 2314 16272

- •High aquatic life (DO> = 5 mg/L)
 - Public water supply
 - Fish consumption
 - Contact recreation

Concerns: Bacteria



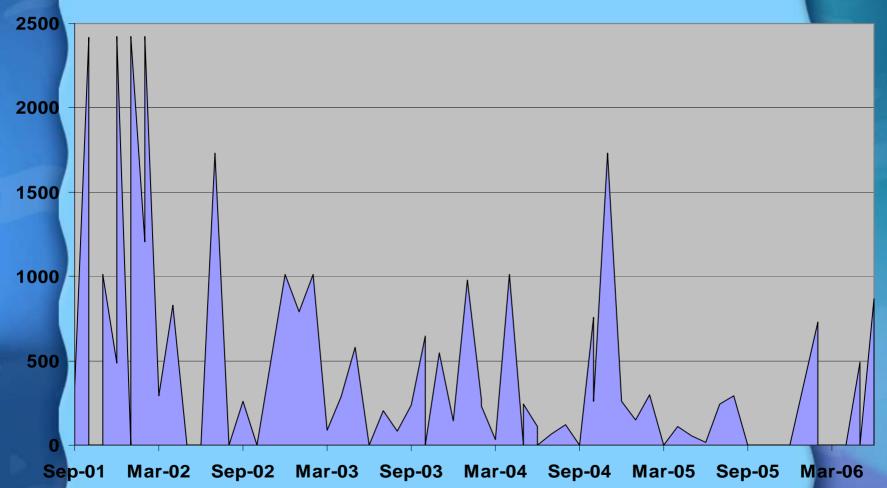




E. coli readings for Station No. 13276
August 2002-October 2005
Geometric mean = 110 MPN / 100 mL
Standard < = 126 MPN / 100 mL



E. coli readings for Station No. 13272
September 2001-June 2006
Geometric mean = 270 MPN / 100 mL
Standard < = 126 MPN / 100 mL





Below the International Dam downstream to the Riverside Diversion Dam in El Paso County--15 miles (24 km)

Segment 2308

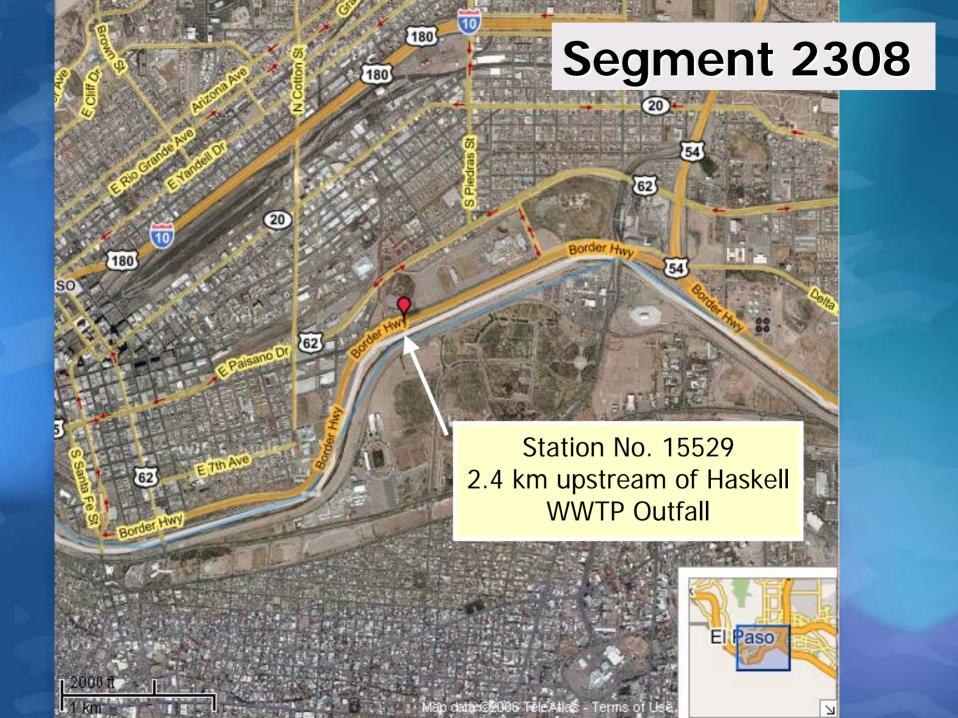
- Low aquatic life (DO < 3 mg/L)
- Public water supply
- Fish consumption
- Non-contact recreation

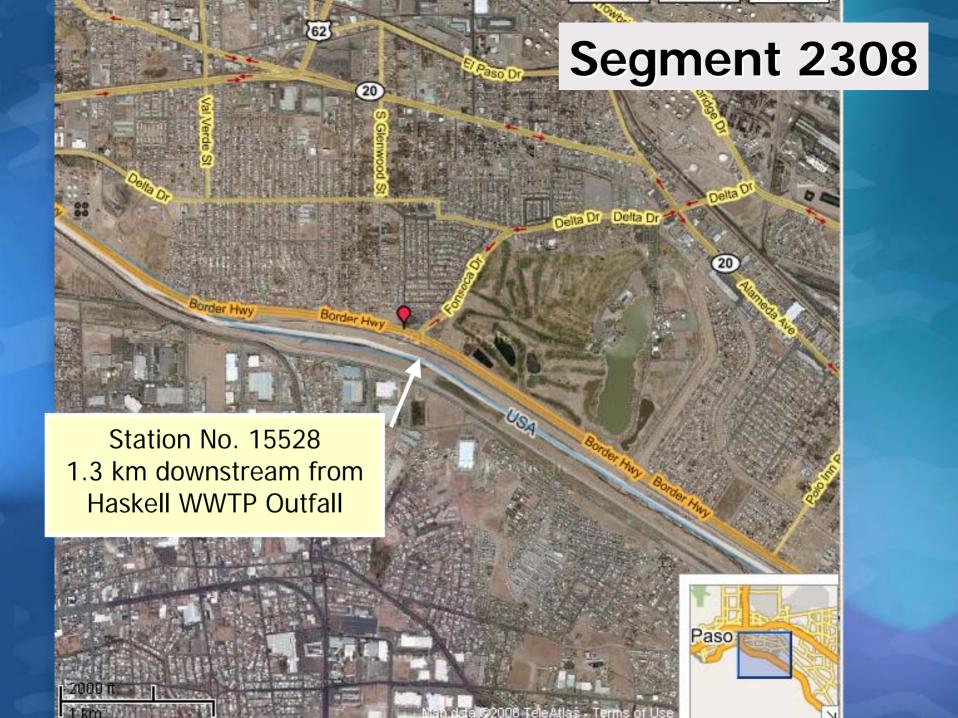
Concerns:

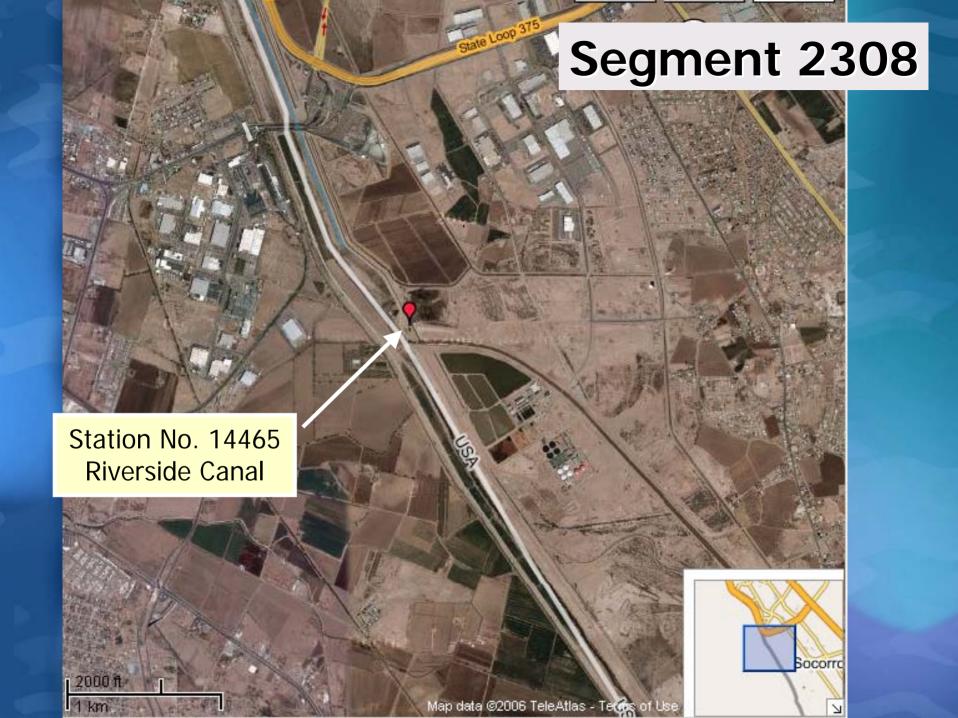
Phosphorus

Impacted by:

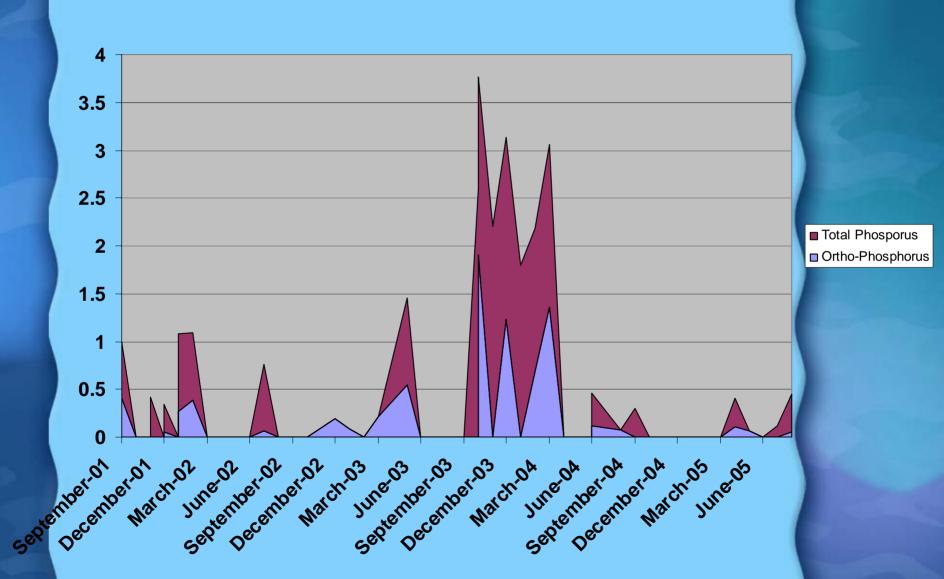
- Concrete lining
- Lack of water

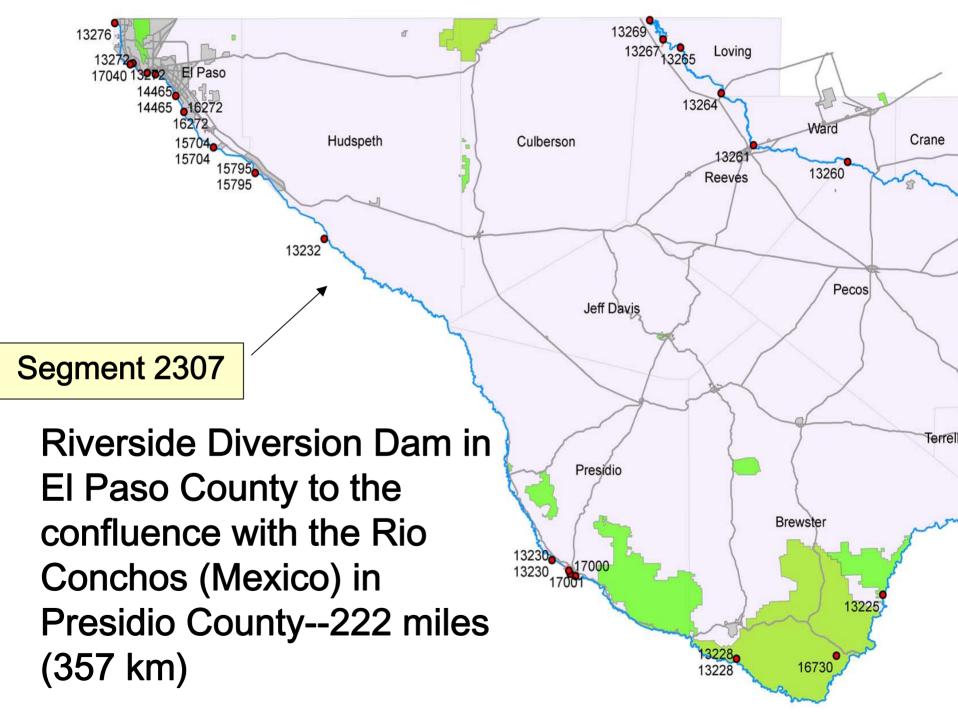






Total / Ortho-Phosphorus mg/L for Station No. 15528 September 2001 to August 2005 Average = 1.02 mg/L / 0.4 mg/L



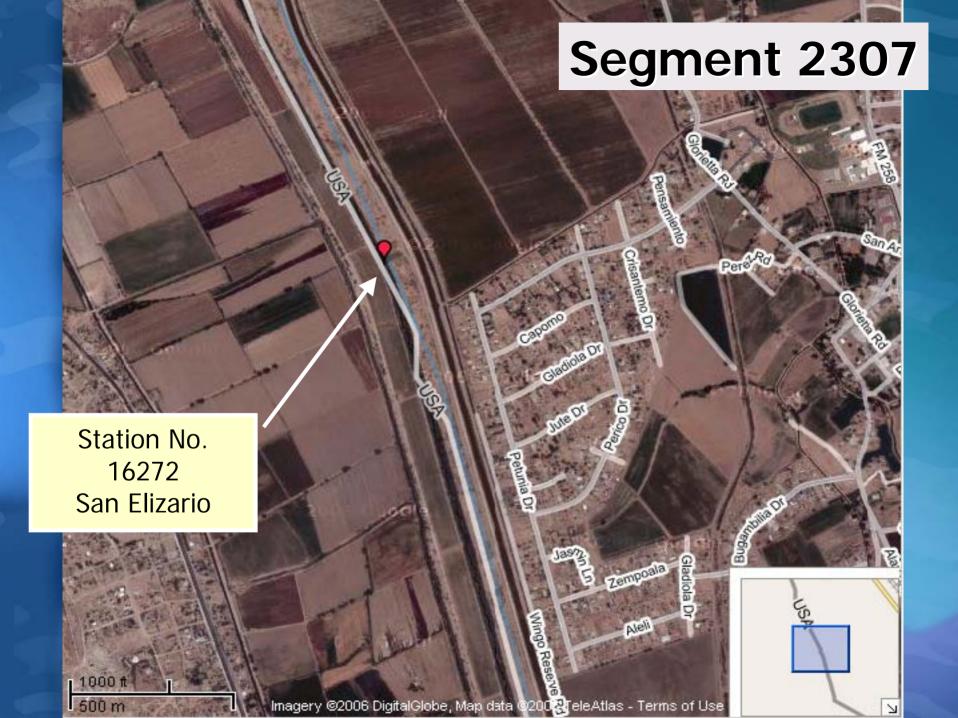


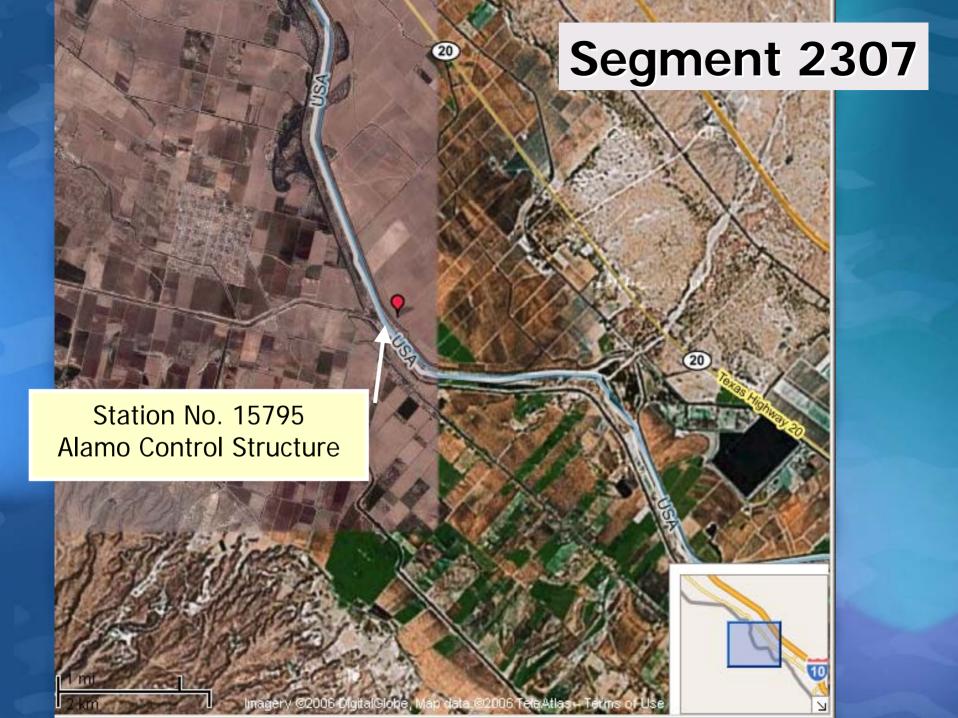
- High aquatic life
- Public water supply
- Fish consumption
- Contact recreation

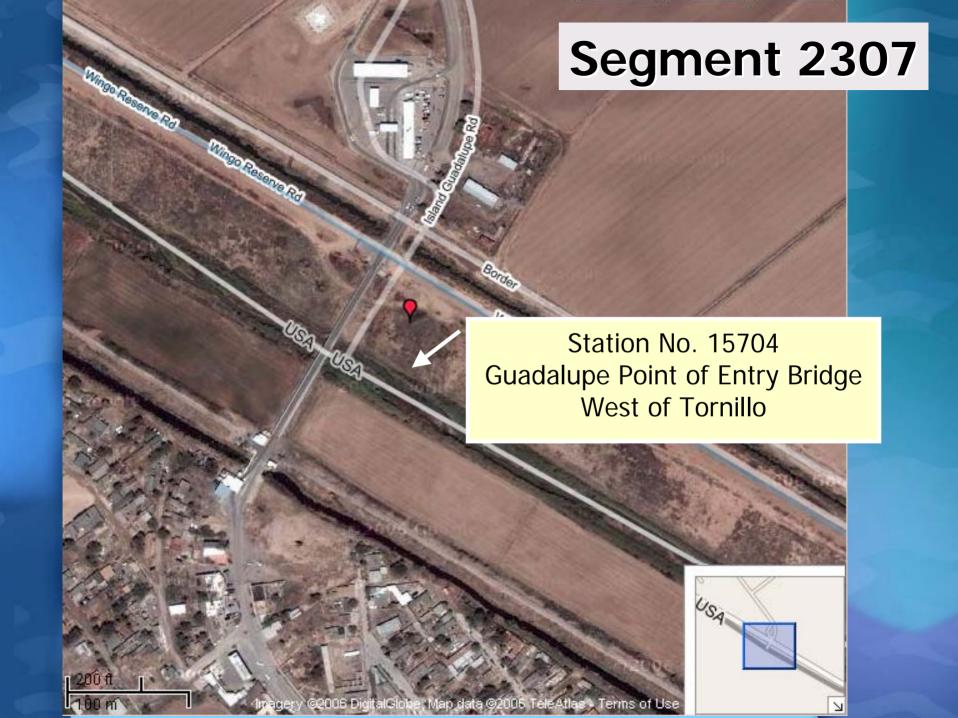
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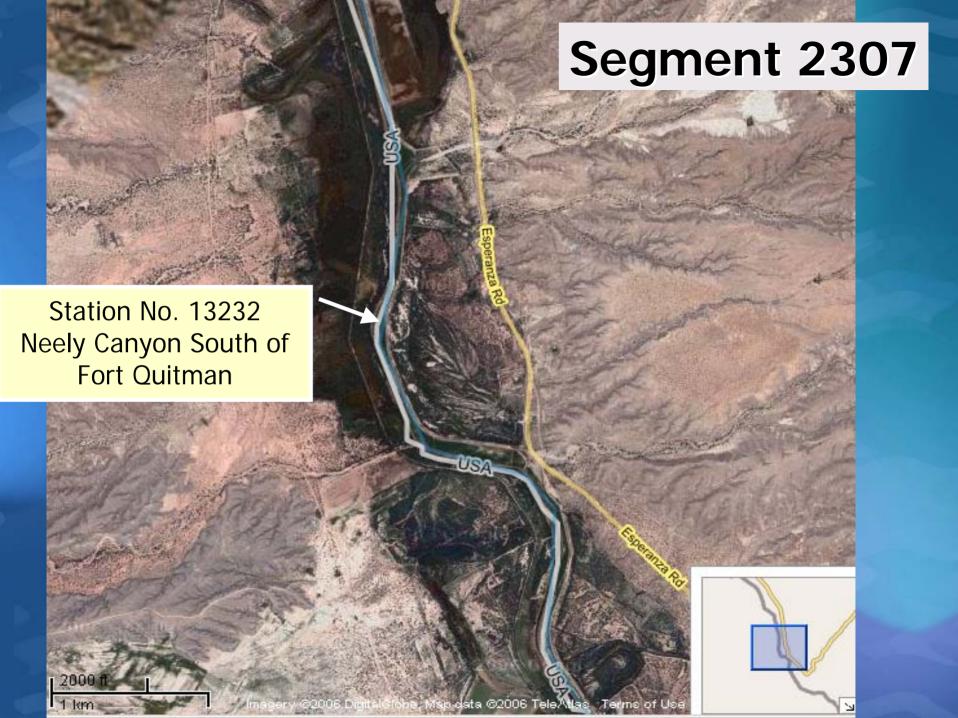
- Irrigated Agriculture
- Wastewater Treatment Effluent

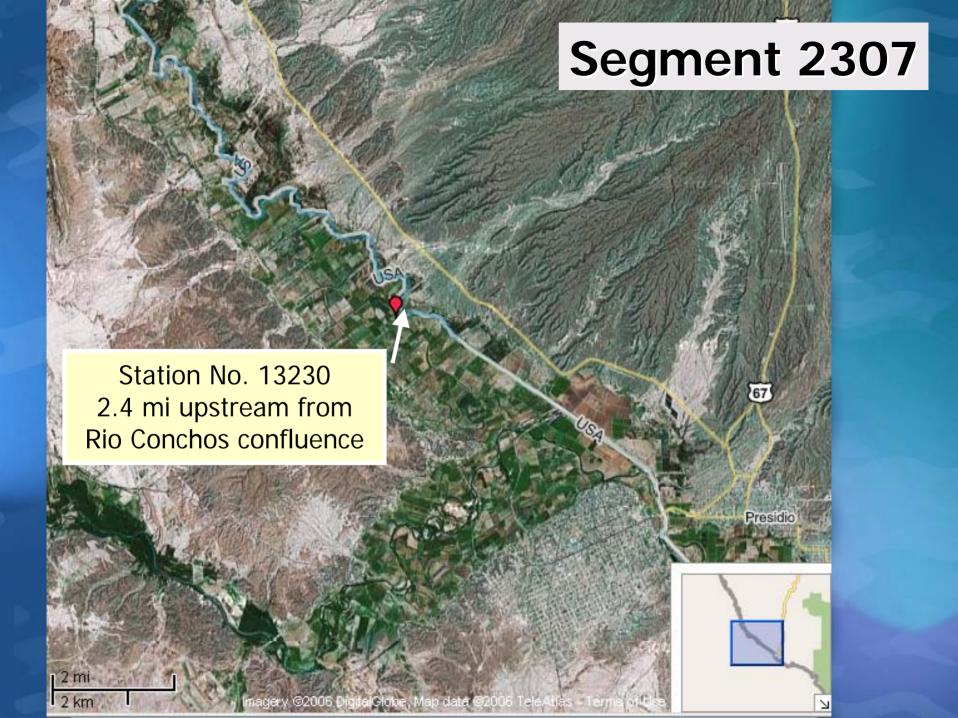
Impairments: high bacteria, chloride, sulfate, TDS, ammonia, and phosphorus







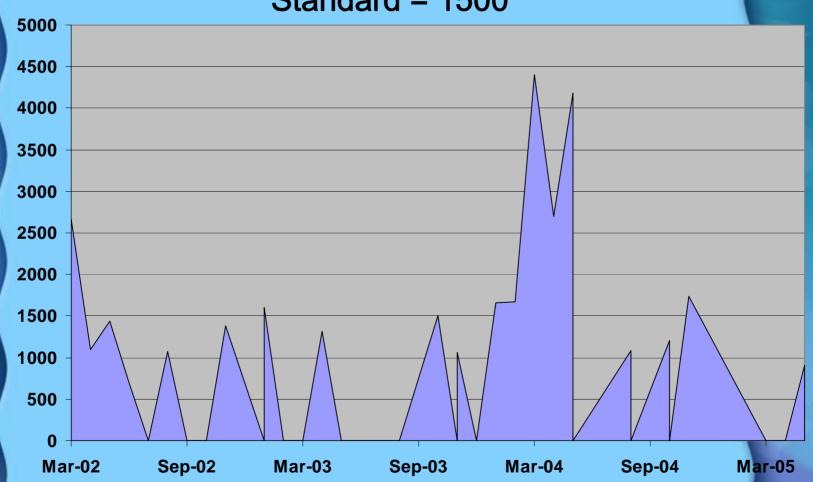


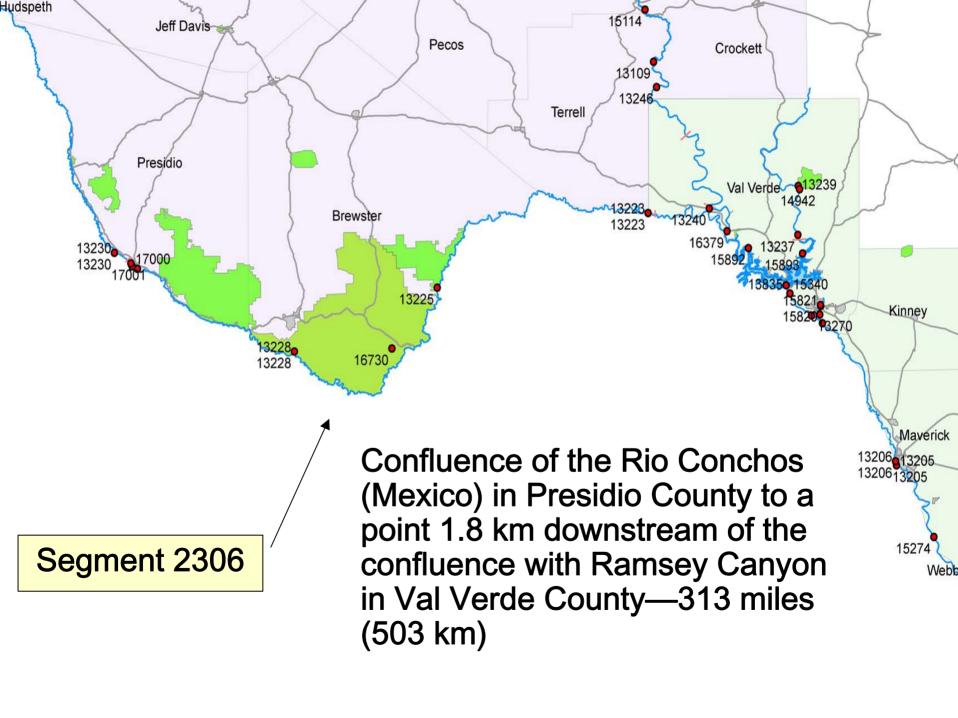


TDS mg/L for Station No. 15795 March 2002 to May 2005

Average = 1754

Standard = 1500





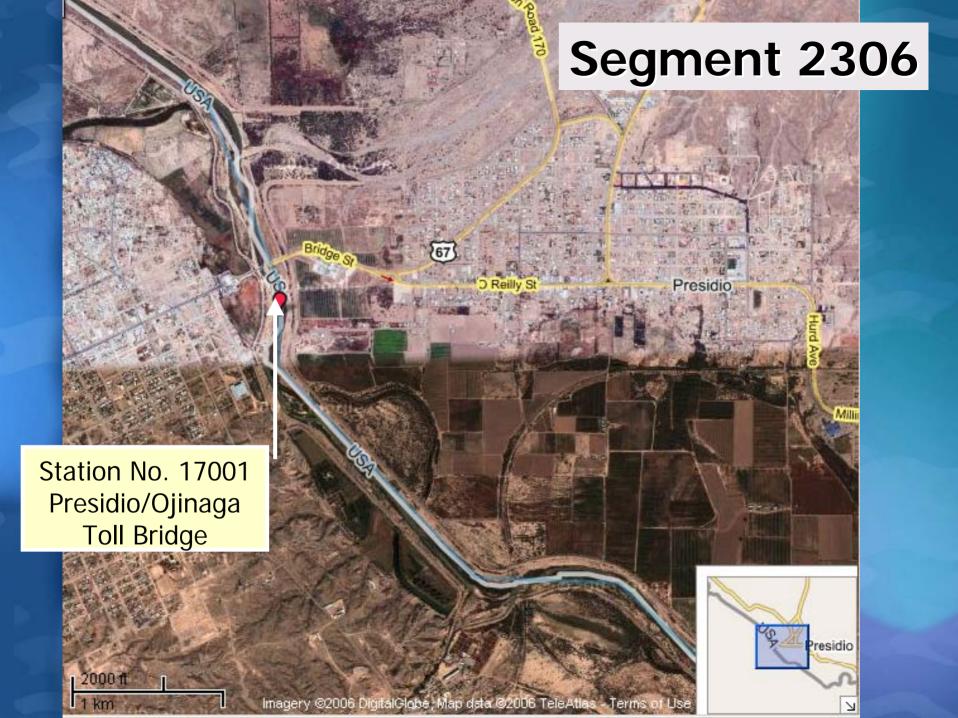
- · Aquatic life
- Public water supply
- Fish consumption
- Contact recreation

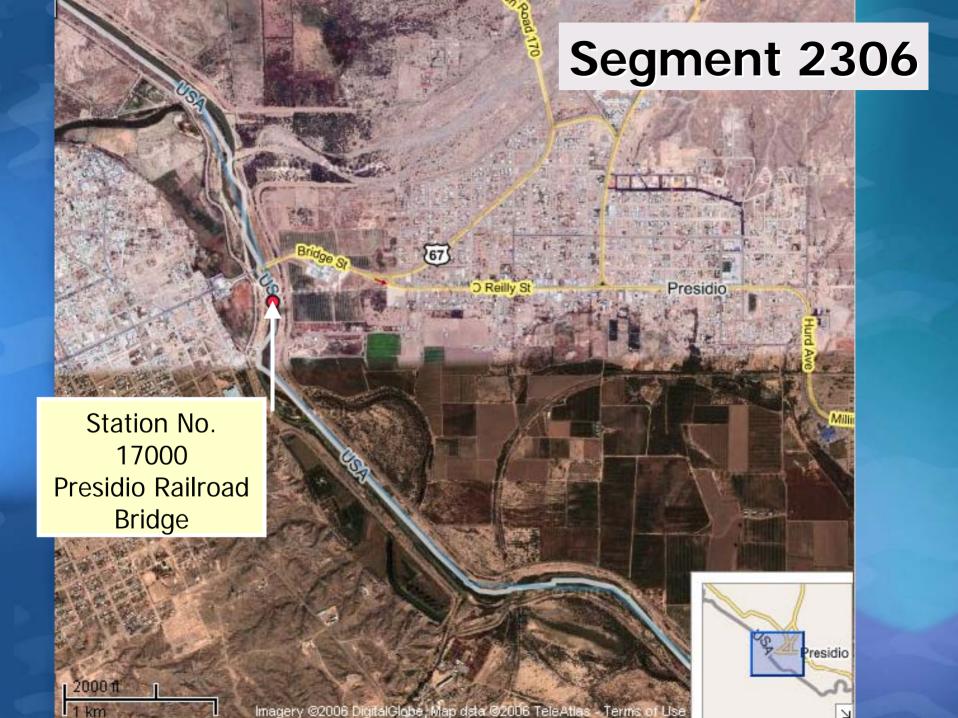
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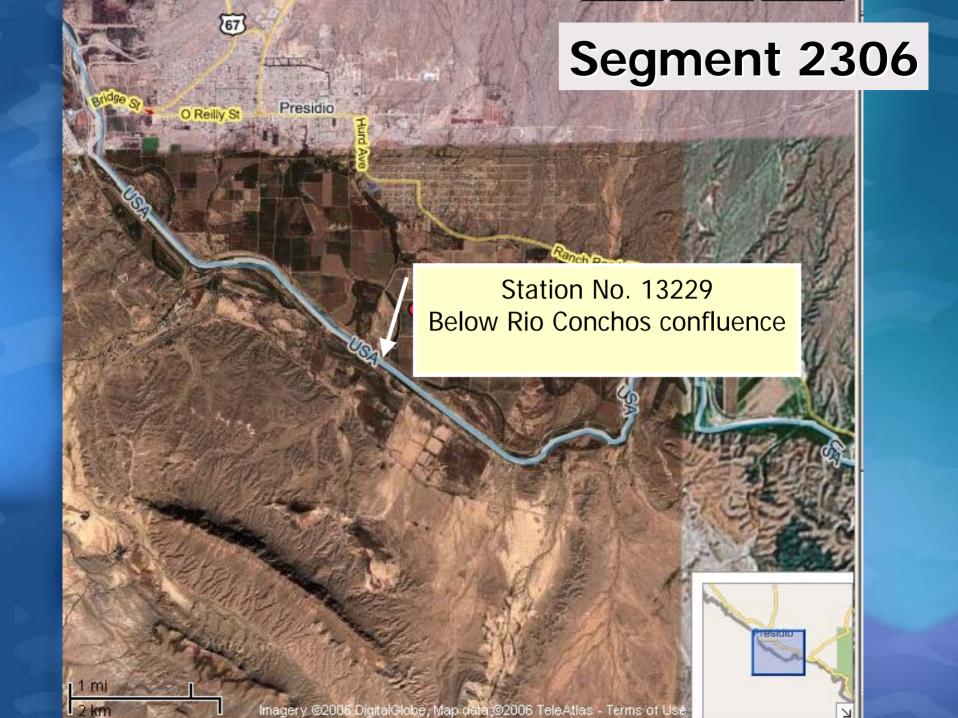
- Presidio, TX
- Ojinaga, Chih

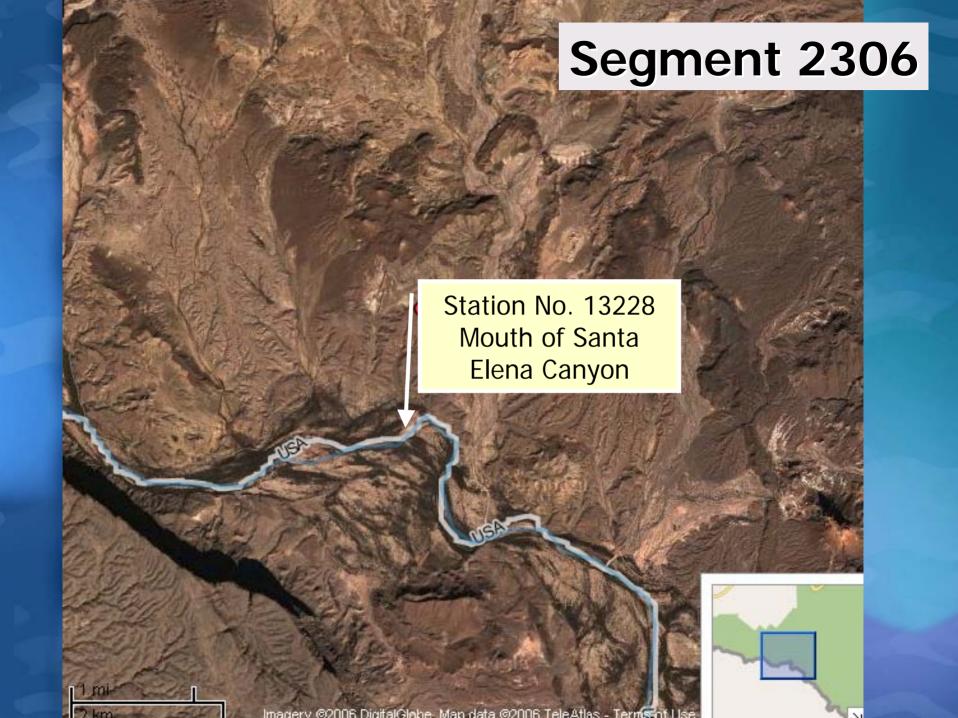
Impairments: bacteria, chronic toxicity in water to aquatic organisms (salinity)

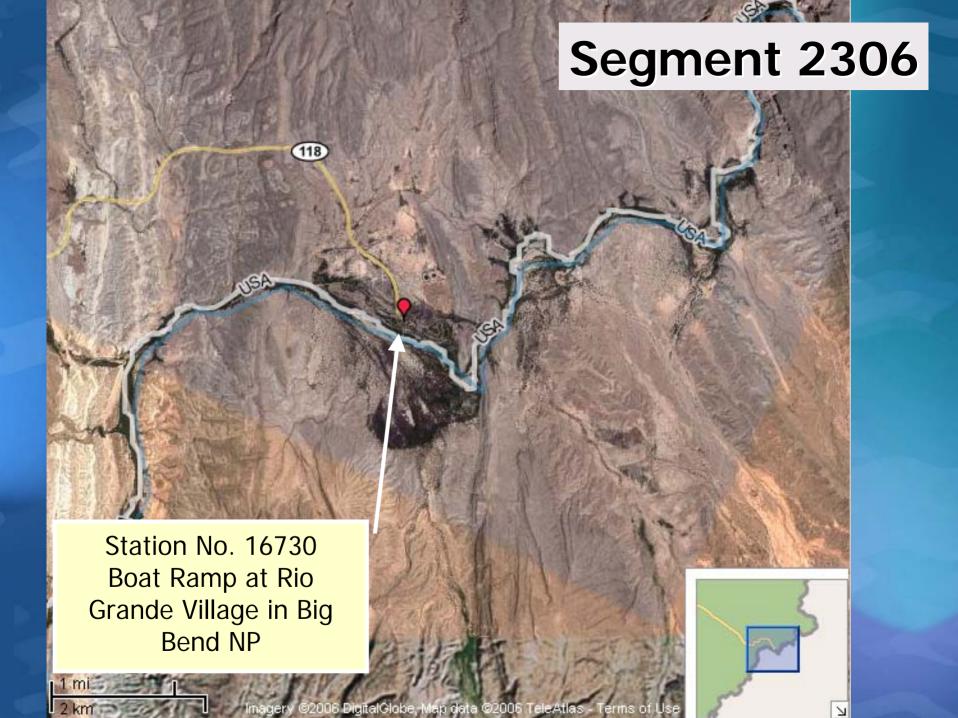
Concerns: TDS, algae blooms, sulfate

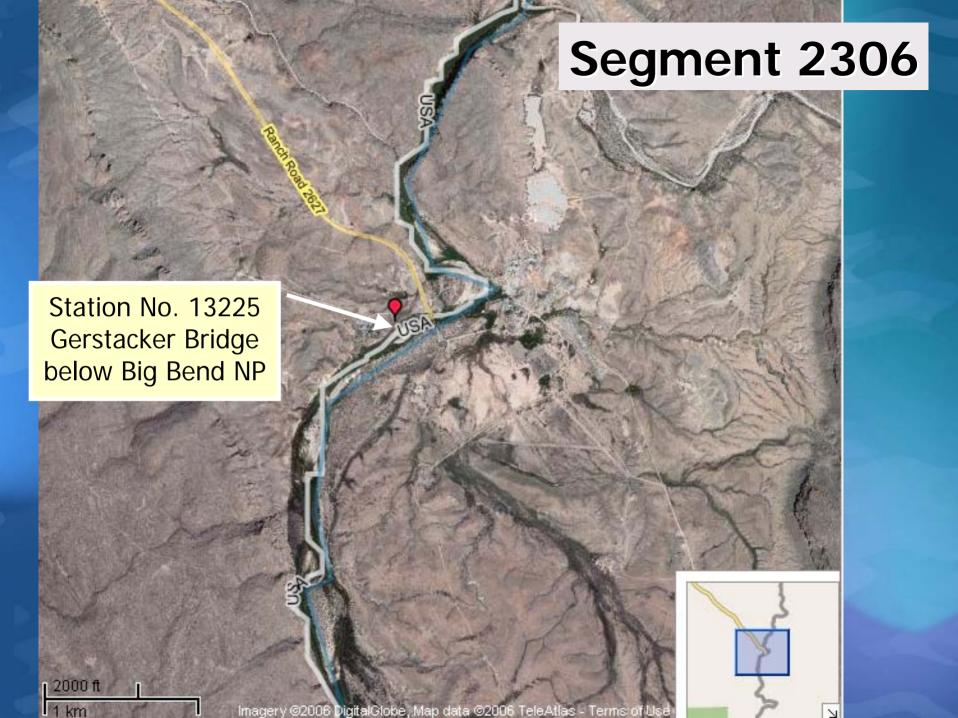


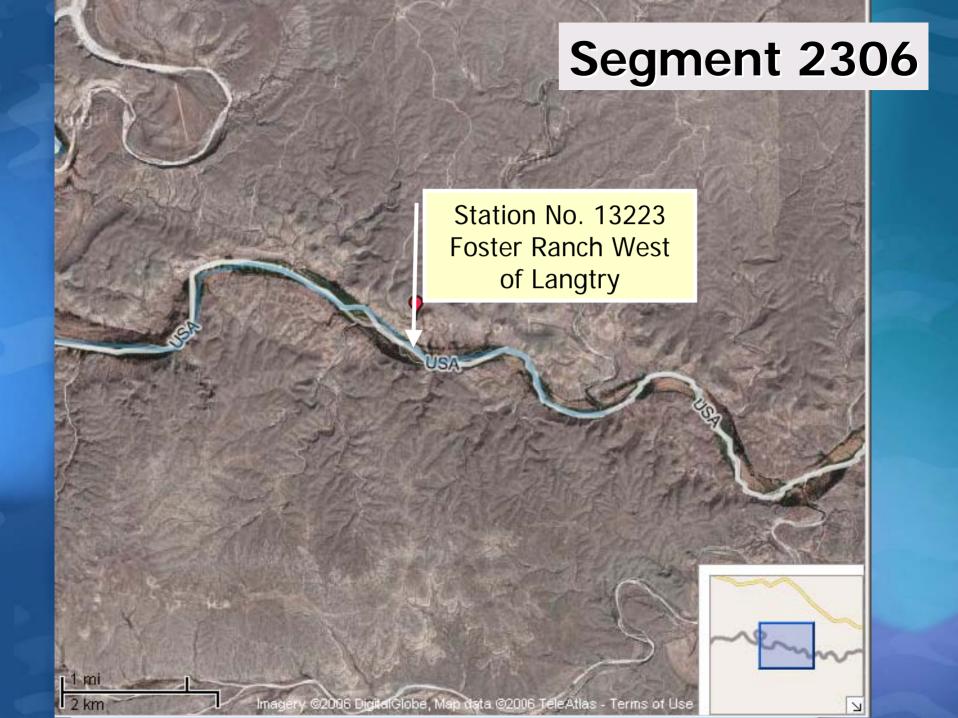




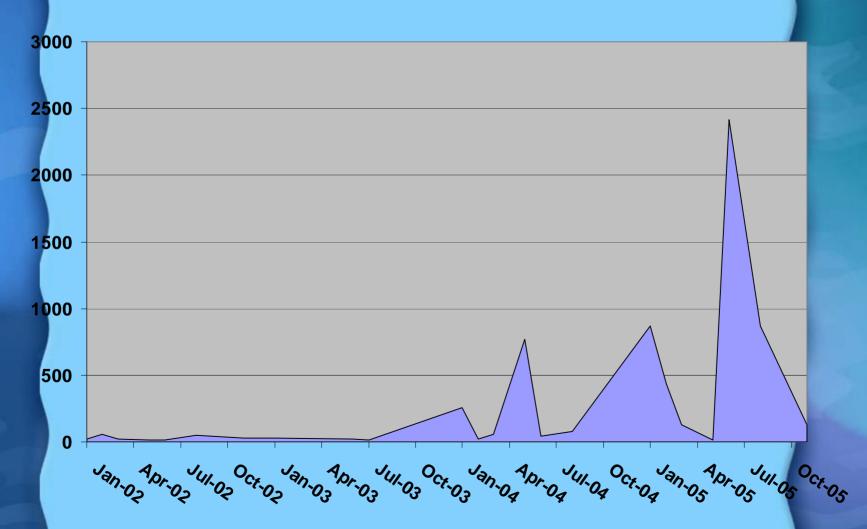




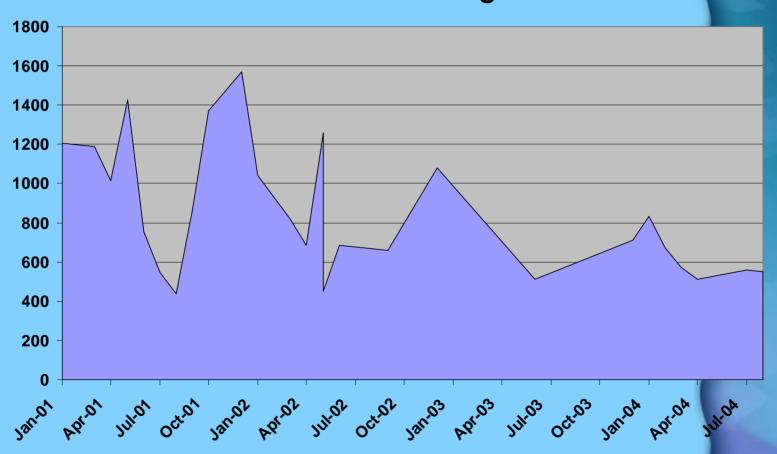


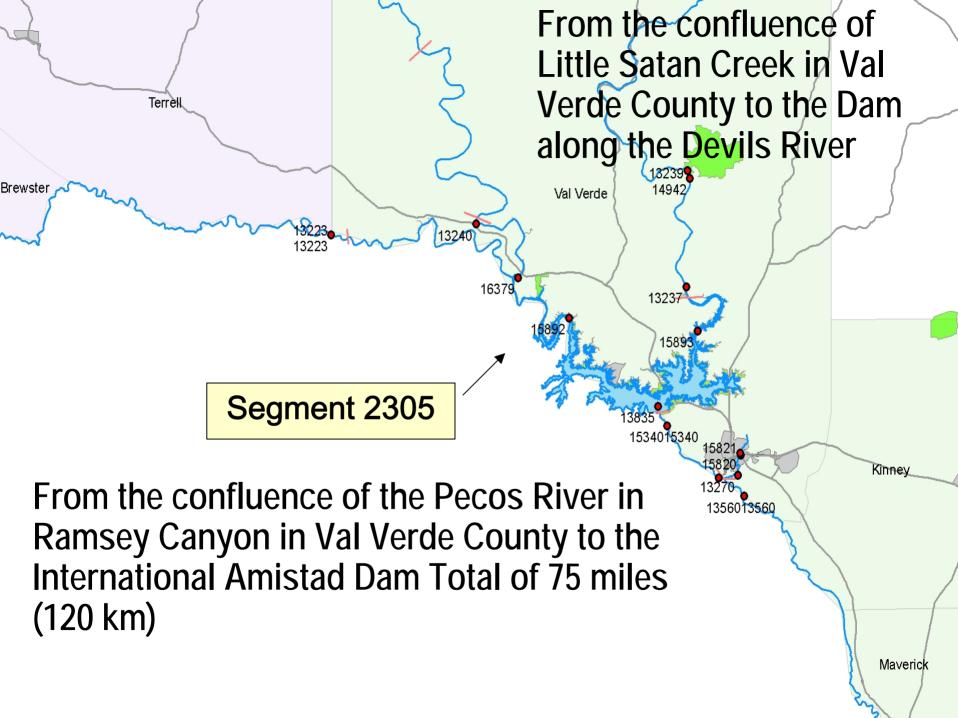


E. coli readings for Station No. 17001
January 2002-November 2005
Geometric mean = 72 MPN / 100 mL
Standard < = 126 MPN / 100 mL



TDS mg/L for Station No. 13223
January 2001 to August 2004
Average = 845 mg/L
Standard = 1500 mg/L

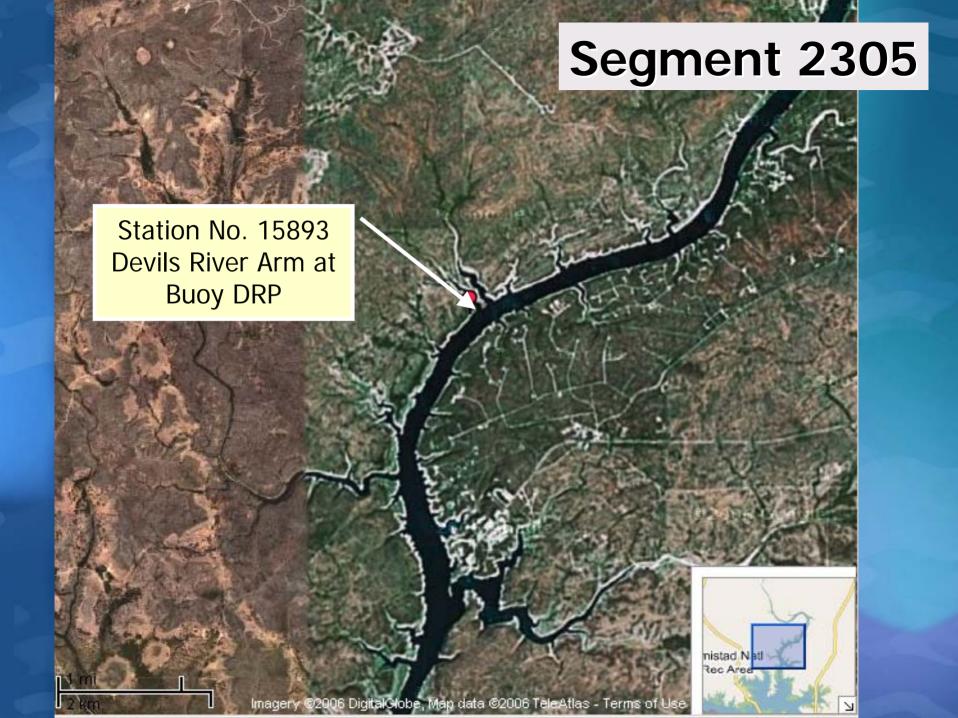


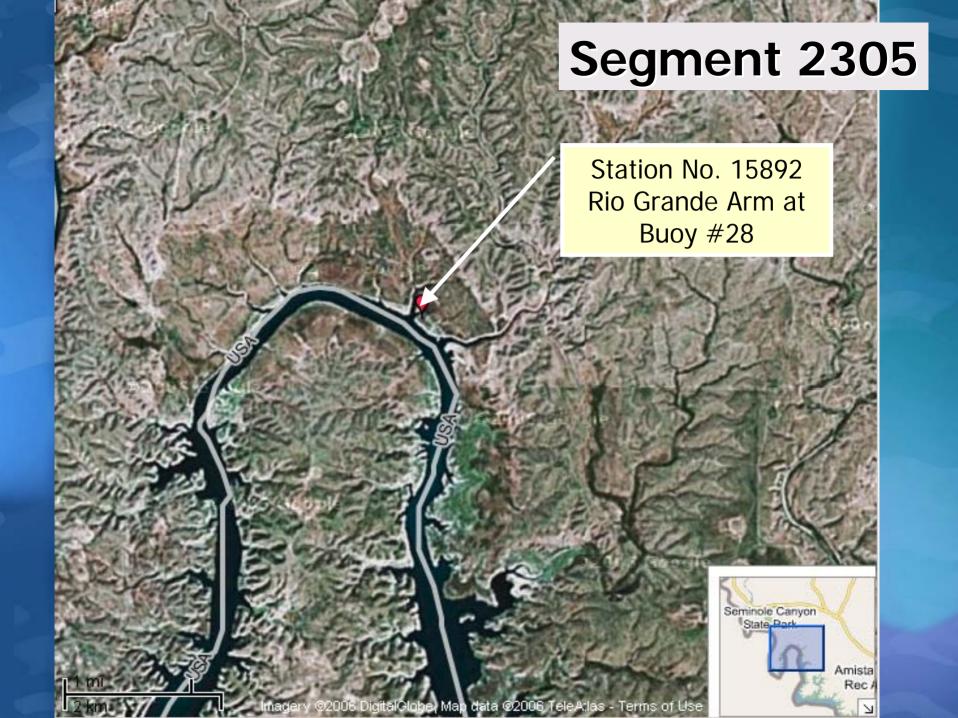


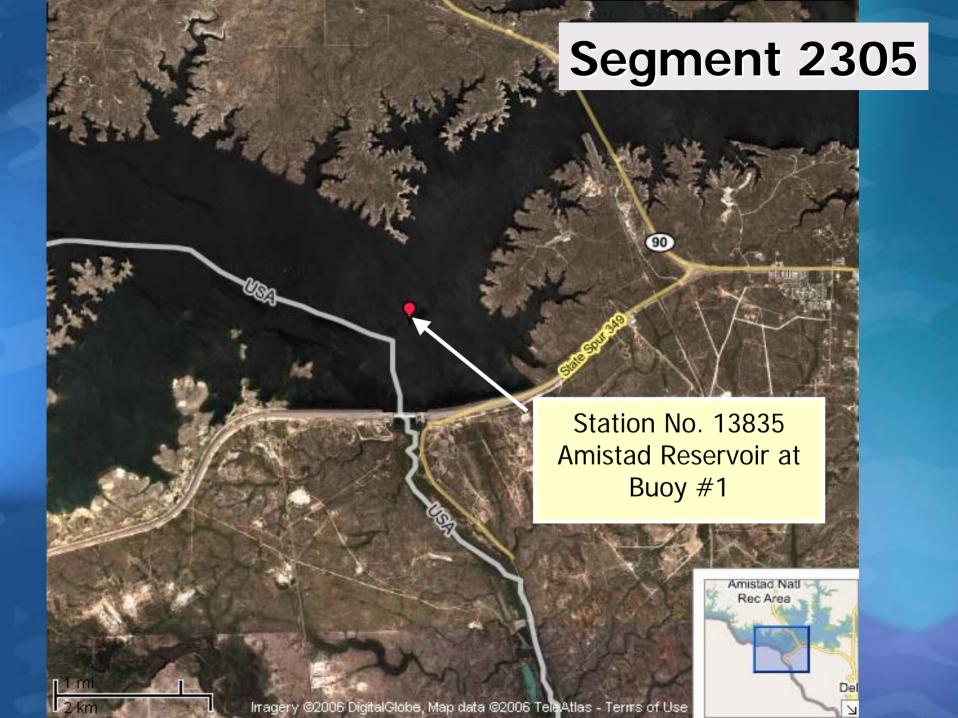
Designated Uses for Segment 2305

- ·High aquatic life
- Public water supply
- Fish consumption
- Contact recreation

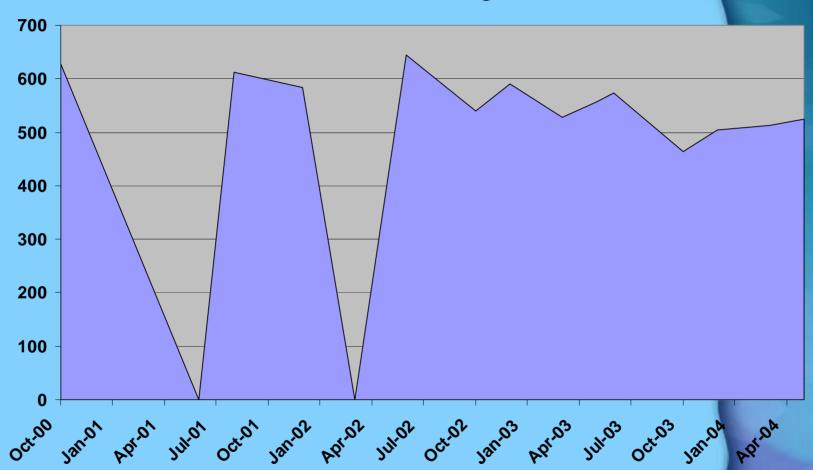
Concerns: phosphorus

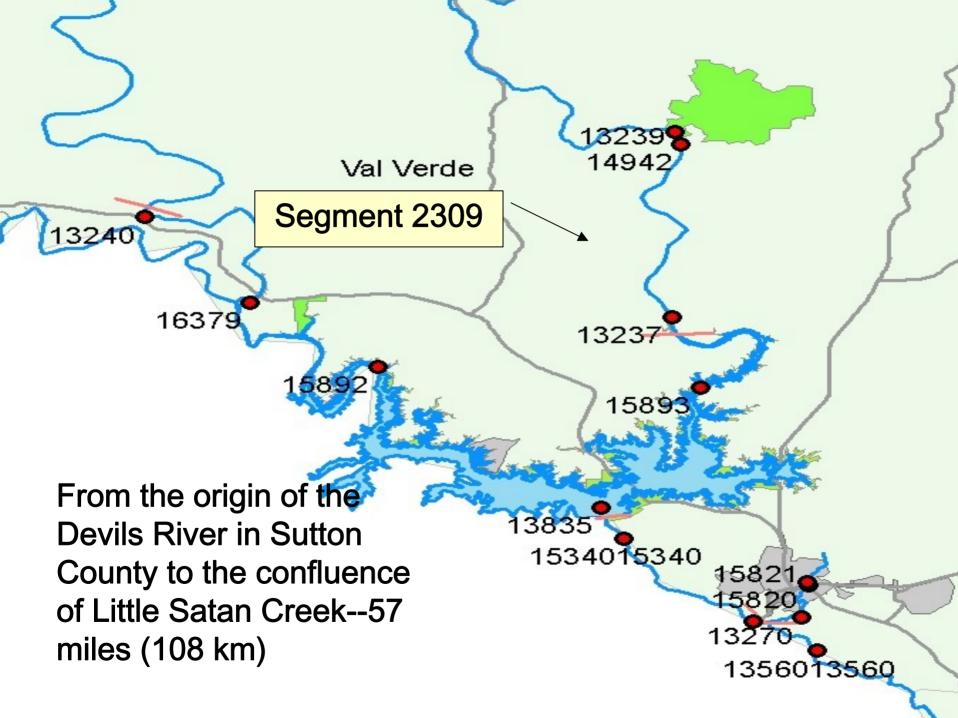






TDS mg/L for Station No. 13835 October 2000 to May 2004 Average = 560 mg/L Standard = 1500 mg/L

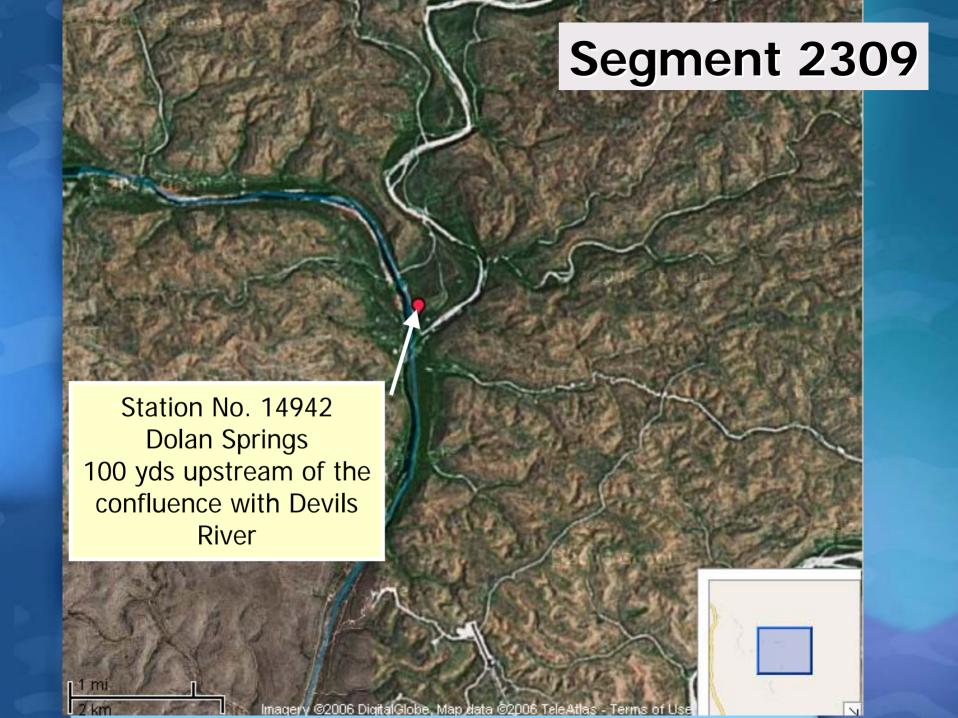


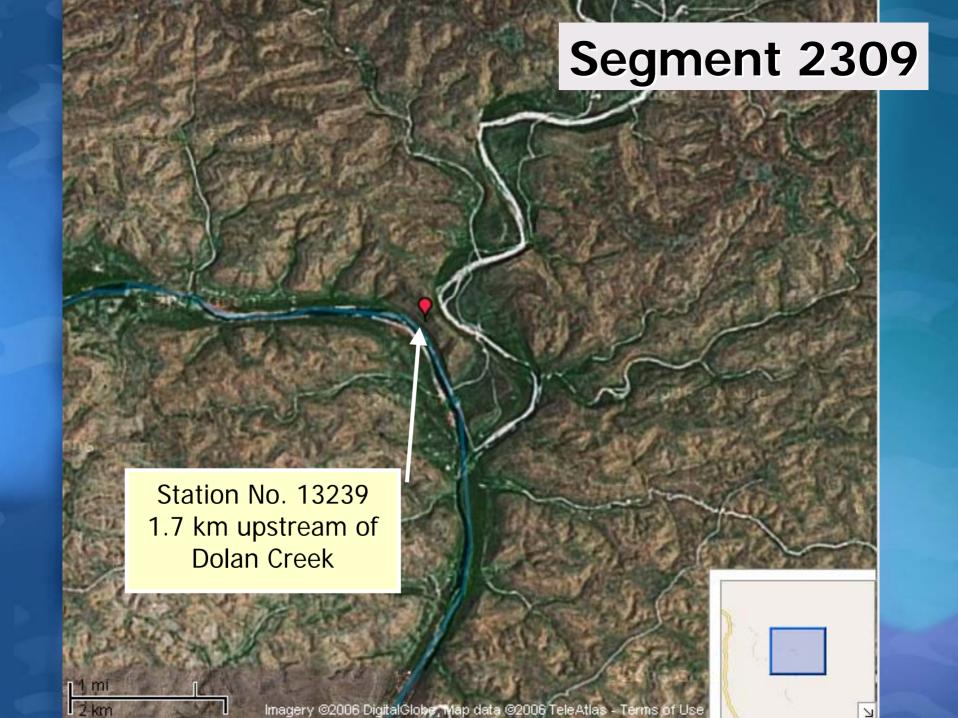


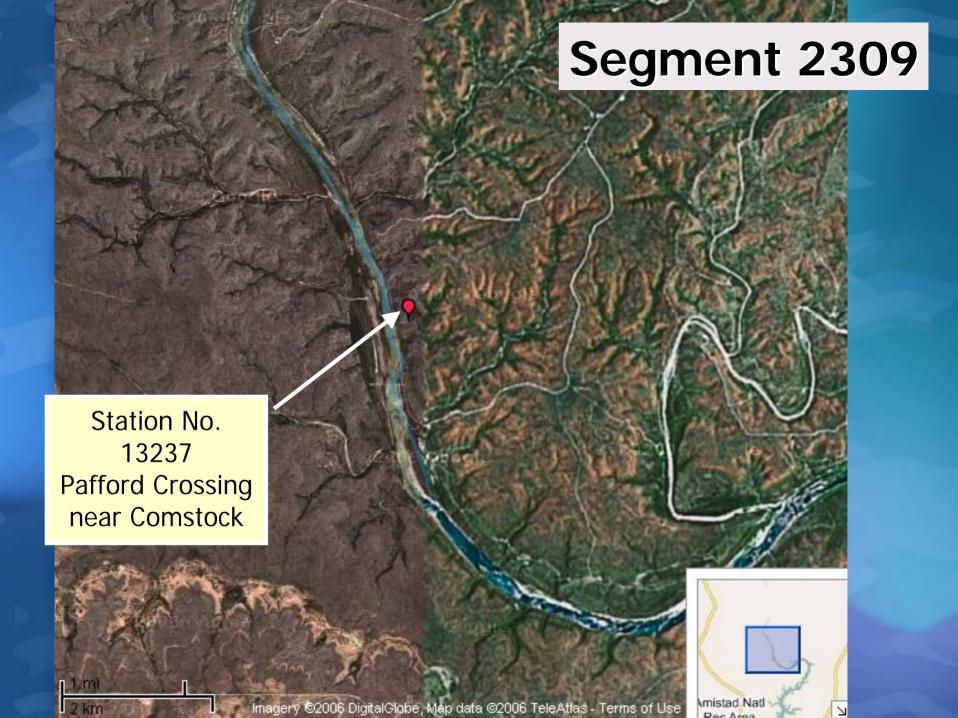
Designated Uses for Segment 2309

- ·High aquatic life
- Public water supply
- Fish consumption
- Contact recreation

Few impactors Low TDS







So how's the water?

It depends on:

- River segment
- Seasonal flow
- Proximity to population centers

Issues to monitor:

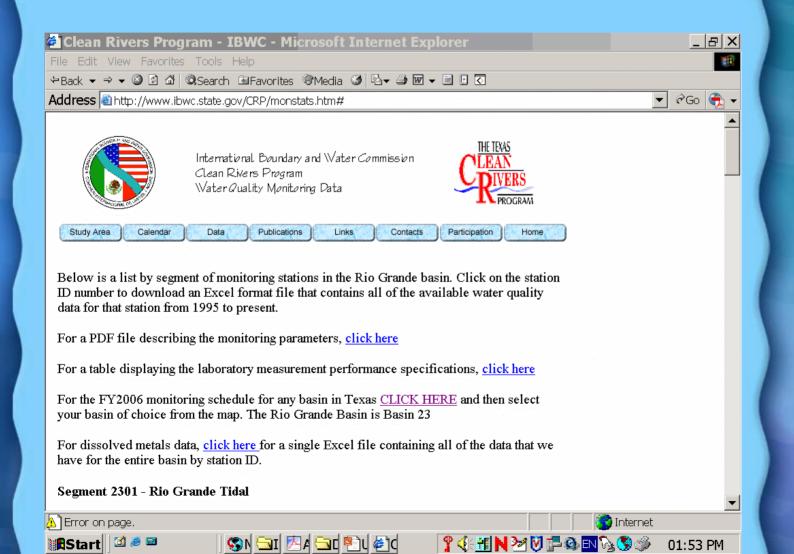
- Bacteria
- Salinity



Data Locations

- Basin Highlights Report
- IBWC website
- TCEQ website

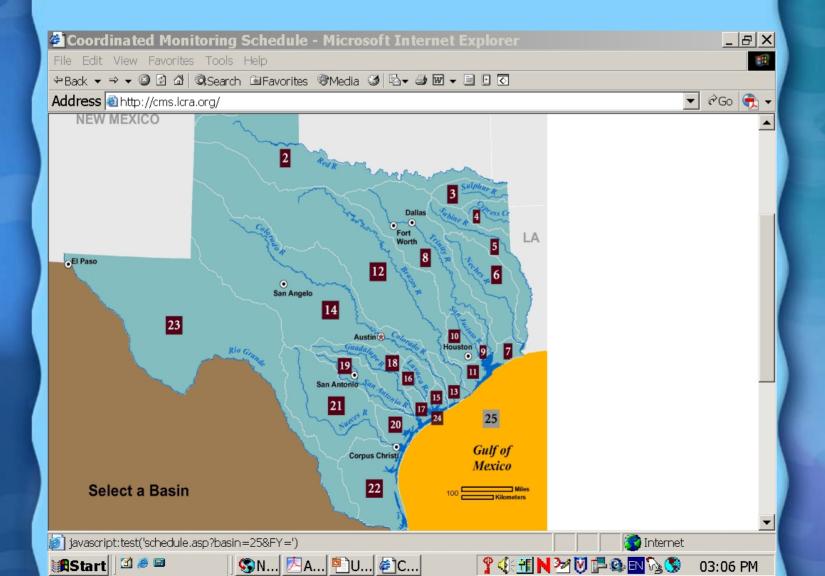
www.ibwc.state.gov/ CRP/monstats.htm



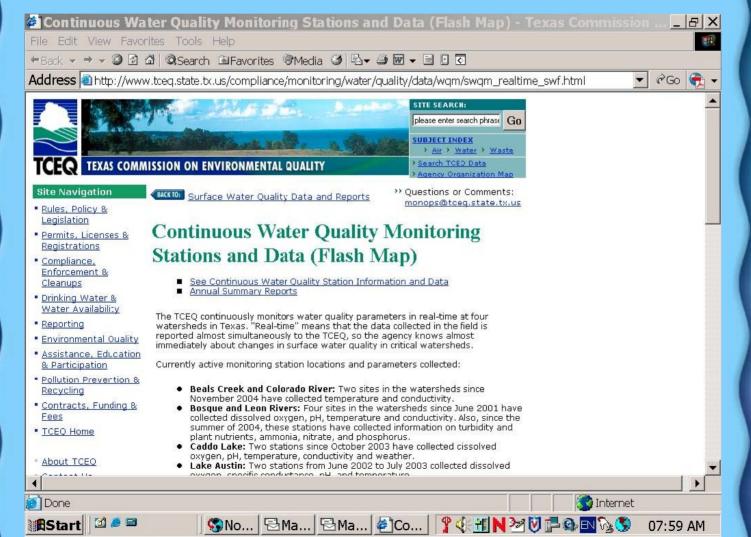
www.tceq.state.tx.us/ compliance/monitoring/ crp/data/storet.html



http://cms.lcra.org/



http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/monitoring/water/quality/data/wqm/swqm_realtime_swf.html



Data Locations http://www.ibwc.state.gov/CRP/monstats.htm

Segment-by-segment list of monitoring stations in the Rio Grande basin

- http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/monitoring/ crp/data/storet.html Monitoring Parameter Descriptions, Surface Water Quality Monitoring
- 3. http://cms.lcra.org/ Interactive database with more than 1,800 sites monitored by 59 agencies in TX
- 4. http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/monitoring/water/quality/data/wqm/swqm_realtime_swf.html
 Continuous Water Quality Monitoring Stations and Data in real-time at 4 watersheds in Texas, including the Rio Grande



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Texas Clean Rivers Program
nancyhanks@ibwc.state.gov
915-831-4794





- Dropping metals analysis to focus on potential organics pollution
- Maintaining current monitoring sites
- Completing special studies

USIBWC-CRP Quality Assurance Goals

- 1. Contract with laboratory for FY2007 that is NELAC (National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference) certified
- 2. Speed up and strengthen the data collection process
- Meet quality assurance goals
- Identify errors earlier
- Quicker turnaround for getting data to the public

Texas Water Monitoring Council

Meeting Announcement



The 2006 (Sixth) Session of the Texas Water Monitoring Congress

> Join us in Austin, Texas! for The 2006 Texas Water Monitoring Congress September 13-15, 2006









Texas Watch is a joint partnership of the TCEO. the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Texas State University - San Marcos, with the mission of expanding understanding and awareness of water quality and NPS issues across Texas. Through education, data collection, and community action. Texas Watch facilitates environmental stewardship by empowering a statewide network of concerned volunteers and partners in a collaborative effort to promote a healthy and safe environment.

"Connecting the Dots" Texas Water Monitoring Congress Public Outreach Symposium Tuesday, September 12, 2006 9:00am-4:00pm The Commons- University of Texas, Austin

Positive and productive communication between water resource managers and the public is widely acknowledged as one of the keys to protecting and improving water quality. This meeting, offered as a preconference symposium of the 2006 Texas Water Monitoring Congress, is the second in a series known as "Connecting the Dots", provides a forum for resolving gaps in communication between the public and local, state and federal water resource programs. The 2005 "Connecting the Dots" meeting recommended several initiatives to enhance water resource management programs' abilities to conduct enforcement, permitting, and education activities as follows:

- · Improve tracking and reporting of repeat violators
- Create a central clearinghouse to guide citizens through the enforcement and response resources at environmental agencies
- · Develop "cradle to grave" oversight of the permitting process
- Require developers to post a bond prior to receiving permits
- Require training of real estate agents, City/County Planners, and developers in the relevant laws and regulations as well as the cost benefits of environmentally "friendly" development.

This year's meeting features presentations on these recommendations as well as panel discussions to identify potential strategies for implementing them.

Who Should Attend? This meeting is open to the general public with a special invitation extended to both individuals who attended the 2005 "Connecting the Dots" meeting and participants in the 2006 Texas Water Monitoring Congress.

Agenda: Visit http://www.texaswatch.geo.txstate.edu/

Meeting Location: The Commons Center at the J.J. Jake Pickle Research Campus of the University of Texas at Austin. For map and directions: http://www.utexas.edu/facilities/commons/attendees.html

Registration: Please respond on or before Wednesday, September 6, by contacting Texas Watch: phone- 877/506-1401 or emailtw05@txstate.edu. We strongly encourage all participants at this meeting to attend the Texas Water Monitoring Congress. You may register for this meeting at: http://www.txwmc.org/

Lodging: http://www.utexas.edu/facilities/commons/attendees.html

Meals: Lunch is provided

EXHIBITOR Registration Form

Contact Information

Volunteers are needed to work on the preparation and planning of the Congress. If you are interested in either volunteering, being an exhibitor, or require further information please contact Robert Bradley at Robert.Bradley@txwin.net or 512-936-0870.

For further information or if you have suggestions for the Congress please contact:

Mr. Robert Bradley, Executive Secretary Texas Water Monitoring Council PO Box 13231 Austin, TX 78711 512-936-0870 Robert.Bradley@txwin.net



Texas Water Monitoring Council

http://www.txwmc.org

Questions?

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